

No 1

SHIP  
ARTHUR SEWALL.

Ship "Arthur Sewall."  
May 28th '99.  
Lat. 34.40. Long. 62.

Our second Sunday, on the ocean, and we have not made much progress, as you will see. one solid week of head gales and strong winds, with big sea - to day the winds is more in our favor, but just now, in the afternoon a rainsquall seems to have killed the wind.

It has been most discouraging for a start. Last Sunday morning, the pilot left us off the Cape, with a light N.W. wind and fine - went into the east that night - Monday was pleasant, so Jane and I did the washing, as we brought considerable of the Phila soil on our clothes. Tuesday it was blowing E. to N.E. gale, and raining. Wednesday was full moon, and a heavy gale with rain - plenty of water everywhere - cleared up Thursday, but blowing fresh, and a big sea - could not do much but read - and so each day has been - yesterday was moderate enough to do a little ironing - but one iron under difficulties, the galley is so far away. Last night it looked very much



like another blow, but moderated - G.D.I. III  
Jem feels that there is to be no "let  
up" of head winds - the barometer has been  
above 30 all through regular easterly weather,  
but peculiar for summer. What have we  
been doing? Little or nothing - have read  
quite a good deal - watched the clouds to  
try to find a change for the better - made  
a canvas cap for Jem, four pillow cases of  
gingham - played with the kitten and dog-  
cards - and always our game of "63" for an  
hour each evening - there has been so much  
water on the main deck, we have not been  
able to walk much there, and it is so  
fuzzy in the house. Our domestic family con-  
sists of two dogs, a bit of a kitten, not more  
than six weeks old, and a few hens and a  
rooster, the dog "Jim" is quite a character, and  
wants to be the only dog - Puggy stays forward  
mostly, for "Jim" is so jealous - as I write at the  
desk, the kitten is capering over my paper, and  
the dog is watching every movement - we don't  
dare trust him alone, for he acts rather suspiciously  
these kindle bull are death on cats, & bear - still,  
being so young, he may get used to this one.

This chart room I call the boudoir, and  
Jem and I sleep here, while Jane and the



No 2      Jem sleep in the big bed below -  
SHIP      The slop clothes are in the side  
ARTHUR SEWALL.      plate room for the present - I sit here the  
most of the time - there is a fine view of  
the whole length of the ship -

Everybody on board seem to have settled  
down into regular routine - Irving and Albert  
Redifer were seasick the first two days - but  
are all right now - there is quite a sea on  
now, and the ship pitches - I hope it will  
breeze up into a steady fair wind, for we  
want to be on our way - Jem seems to think  
the ship will not sail well - we are  
always comparing her with the Shenandoah.

The first two days after leaving the Cape,  
saw a number of schooners bound North  
and South - since then have had the  
ocean to ourselves - two or three days there  
were a number of "mother Carey's chickens" about  
usually indicates a storm, or rather they  
leave the stormy regions - one evening Jem  
picked up a little land bird, asleep on the rail -  
he brought it in and put it into the table  
drawer, until morning - I gave it a drink of  
water, and took it on deck - it flew off, as far  
as I could see - so hope it made land.



931.111

We have a most excellent crew, and I trust matters will go along well.

So far, one would think we had access to a fine market, for we have had beef and mutton, fresh vegetables, and strawberries until within two days. For dinner to day, had a fine roast, potatoes, asparagus, cucumbers, corn, soup of course, fresh bread and plum puddings, and best of all, ice water; still have a little ice left that Steward is very careful of, so we may have it on the table.

We have seen some big timber floating by - part of a lumber cargo. We will miss the snow, but it won't be long before we have another - this week, I hope to accomplish more in the way of work. The kitten is getting obstreperous, so I must leave - he is pretty funny, for such a young cat.

June 4th - Sunday evening. Lat. 35.16 Long. 52.20  
Two weeks out, and the third Sunday at sea. - Last Sunday I recorded a week of head winds, and now, a week of calms and drifting - a most trying siege - have seen ten days doing what we did in four, out from N.C. three years ago. Day after day has passed, and such beautiful weather - get a little air for a



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SHIP

ARTHUR SEWALL.

time, then flat calm. To day is really the first time the ship has moved with a fair wind. It has been so beautiful to day. The sea and sky so blue, and such a sparkle on the water. Our life the past week has been as usual. a little sewing, much readings and cards. Jane and I did our washing, last Monday. The first of the week, saw a brig in the distance. Since then, nothing but sea and sky. We watch for something in the water. Saw more timber floating by. This morning, one of the men caught the first fish which they had for their supper. Steward had a bad fall the middle of the week, striking the end of his spine, so has been laid up, one of the boys helping cook. Our animals prove very interesting, and so much company. I have allowed twenty weeks (large margin) for our passage, so now there are eighteen. The weeks slip by fast, in spite of the lack of variety.

After supper the boys play and sing - some of the sailors dance and sing, and



231.111

seem to be very jolly - have a very good capable crew. There is always plenty to do on board ship.

Sunday, 11th of June. Lat. 30.38. Long. 29.50  
The weeks out, and the fourth Sunday.

The past week has been distinguished from the preceding, by better winds, until the past Wednesdays. Wednesday was our really first day's work, with a fair wind - perfect weather most of the time - the fair winds do not last long - are getting ready to go about ship now. Tuesday lost, six vessels passed, bound the other way. Friday passed ship Honolulu, N.Y. to Melbourne.

Yesterday passed a bark, bedabroft bound same way with lumber - to day have passed a ship, Englehorn from N.Y. to Japan.

If not going very fast, it is a satisfaction to pass vessels. one day saw a big turtle and a log - the log was evidently struck by the ship, and the turtle was hanging on to it.

We are glad to see a new moon, and hope we soon will have the N.E. trades and be skipping along, so to get all we can of moon light. This is a slow passage, and we get weary. Our Steward is about again - have not done much the past week.



No 4- Lat. 12.54. Long. 28.15

SHIP  
ARTHUR SEWALL.

Four weeks out, and the fifth Sunday - have had the trade winds the past week - or rather since Wednesday. The ship will not sail with the "Kunandah" 20.5 knots is our biggest day's work, the past week. Last Sunday after writing spoke the Am bark "Lolani" N.Y. to Honolulu - she was on the other tack - Monday we washed, and had quite a large washing, not doing any the week before - we have to be limited with water - but soon will be in the doldrums, where it rains in sheets - saw two vessels bound the other way, in the distance - Thursday, the "Lolani" passed us - bound same way - we were never passed by any sailing craft in the Sea.

The weather is very warm, especially to day - too warm to stay on deck much - I have been reading "Prince Otto", one of Stevenson's books - but all day of reading is tiresome - The past week have served some - James and I are each making a white gethcoat - we play our usual games - and cards in the evening - everybody is busy



are beginning to paint about ships for <sup>631.111</sup>  
the weather is perfect - and these moon  
light nights we walk the deck and  
talk of the different ones away -

Jim says if the "Phelps" passed every  
thing, she must have overhauled some  
flow old tubs - Our little kitten is a  
source of much amusement she is cer-  
tainly the smartest little thing - the  
dog Jim gets on better with her, though  
still rough - Puggy does not come aft  
very much, for dog Jim tries to  
drive him off - a hen figures on the  
dining table twice a week, so the flock  
is lessening - I shall be sorry to lose  
the rooster's cheerful crowing -

There are so many things we want  
to know about - most of all when  
Wildes arrives - such ages before we  
hear of anything -



No. 5 Sunday, June 25. Lat. 2.14 Long. 29.  
4 P.M. <sup>SHIP</sup> We have just come in from  
ARTHUR SEWALL.

the top of the house, where we have been  
entertained by our crew in honor of a visit  
from "Neptune" and wife - We are not  
across the "line", but expected to be, if  
we had had favorable winds - but as  
the men had made their preparations, it  
was thought best to go on with them.

Well, it was the funniest sight I ever  
witnessed on board ship. - of course Neptune  
came up over the bow with a shout,  
and after a little converse with those who  
took part, joined his bride, and the procession  
started aft - first came the police, with  
big badges - then Neptune and wife - followed  
by the barber, with a razor about a yard  
long - then the doctor, scribe, etc. for music  
they had a guitar, mandolin, banjo, concertina,  
triangle, and harmonica - Neptune of course had  
a long beard of oakum, with a high hat of  
canvas, <sup>trident</sup> triangle - but the bride was too funny  
for anything - I laughed til I cried - Belle  
gave me an old lavender lawn wrapper -  
so I ripped the tucks out of the yoke and  
made the whole thing broader - then I made a



veil of cheesecloth, with some old pink roses on top - ~~A~~ short German boy was the bride, and he had a ring of oakum that hung to his knees - it was so funny the way he came dancing along, tossing up his ring bits - After the march, they went to the main hatch where the ceremonies were held.

Before this, they had suspended a sail, and had about four feet of salt water in it for the bath - There were seven victims tied to the rails, and each was taken in turn - first Neptune questioned them, as to their name and home - beside several other questions I could not hear - then they took their victim and sat him on the edge of the sail while the barber lathered his face with some preparation made of tar and grease - after the shaving, he was ducked over backward into the water - We stood on the top of the midship house, to see the fun - after it was over, they marched aft, then seated themselves on the mizzen hatch and followed out the program already prepared by some of the boys. I will send the one they made for the captain, and you will



No 6

SHIP  
ARTHUR SEWALL.

see it is very original, and bright -  
Some of the men have fine  
voices, and the boys play well - but  
the gem of the affair was a "cake walk"  
by our Steward and one of the men. They  
were blacked up, Steward in a white suit  
with cane decked up with bright colors.  
The other had on the lavender dress, and  
as he was tall, it brought the dress  
half way to the knee. I never saw a  
better cake walk - Steward was a soldier and  
probably learned the "walk" down South -  
The men were so jolly, that it was real  
pleasure to watch them - some fun now  
and then, does one good, especially on  
board ship, where life is so serious -

The past week has been made up of  
light rain squalls, calms and only one days  
work. We ought to be having the S. E. trades  
but the wind is South, and with a current  
takes us to the Westward. Have seen few  
vessels - two Steamers passed in the night -

Friday a small vessel was sighted, called  
the "Donna Amelia" - Brazilian - we passed  
close by, and exchanged longitude - he will



probably report us, as he was bound to <sup>some</sup> S. American port -

Wednesday caught enough rain to wash. have not had the usual rain fall through these latitudes - It is very warm, especially the nights, and sleep is impossible part of the time - but if we get the winds, it will soon be getting cool - our days are shortening - We have enjoyed these beautiful moonlight evenings on deck, thinking of our absent ones, and wondering what they are doing - have accomplished very little in the way of sewing - I forgot to say that the pug dog was one of the characters in the farade - his chief friend was Neptune - as he had on a broad white collar, with "Neptune's dog Toby" painted on it, and Neptune led him with a string - during the concert, he went out and stood by him, when he sang - he had a bath too, after the men, and seemed to enter into the fun - Our entertainment will seem very secular to you, for Sunday, but you must remember we are on the ocean, and things are different - sometimes our crew sing "Nearer My God to Thee" and it sounds beautifully -



No 7. Six weeks out, and the seventh

SHIP Sunday - We crossed the "Line" Monday  
ARTHUR SEWALL.

37 days out - got the trader Tuesday, but so far to the south - expected to be jammed on the Brazilian coast - all the week have had a succession of terrific squalls - and a big sea South. Wednesday afternoon we passed Fernando Noronha, about 20 miles to the east of them. There used to be a penal settlement on one of the Islands. They are owned by Brazil. We are skimming down the coast, and hope we won't have to beat - to day are in Lat 13.06 Long. 36.10 - the ship is remarkably dry, considering there is such a sea on - our winds ~~sent~~ fair, but we are by the wind if it were fair, would be making some good days work. our beautiful moon is fast leaving us, but unless it squalls, the sky is wonderfully bright - our good friend the North star is out of sight, but we have the Southern Cross in its place - there are two very bright stars near the cross, called "pointers" - The weather is still very warm - have done very little the past week - too warm - play crib and checkers as usual - cards in the evening - the dogs and kitten take up much of the time



Monday, July 10. Lat. 31.30 Long. 48.40. G91.111

I did not write yesterday, so will add a line this evening. We were out seven weeks yesterday, and it was our eighth Sunday at sea. Have had some good days run the past week - got out of the squally region at last, and have been having some beautiful weather. Tuesday was the Fourth, but we did nothing to celebrate - Steward made a cake with a cannon and flags on it - the only patriotic thing I saw.

Have seen several steamers in the distance - yesterday and part of last night, had a fine breeze - but it died out to a calm this morn and has been foggy all day. We hope to make the most of the morn, so want to hurry on.

Our dog Jim had his first fit to night at bedtime - a number of Cape pigs are about, and he has been very much excited, running up and down - he is now shut up. There was quite an excitement for awhile, thinking he had gone mad - for he run about the deck. I hope he will be all right in the morning.

A big whale passed to day quite near.



No 8 - Lat. 44. Long. 57. Sunday, July 16.

SHIP  
ARTHUR SEWALL.

Eight weeks out, and our ninth Sunday

The past few days have decidedly changed the temperature - 40° on deck - and the past three days have the cabin fire - one feels the cold after so much warm weather - Wednesday had a heavy blow - feared we might be going to have a Pompero, as we were off the River Platte - but we escaped - in the evening, the water was wonderful - every wave was full of foam - I never saw any thing like it before - spoke an English ship "Beacon Rock", London to San F.

Sunday, July 23 - Lat. 57.10 Long 69.10

Here we are in the Cape Horn regions - cold, and heavy - the first of the week, had remarkably fine weather, where we were having heavy gales three years ago - Saturday morning, made Staten Land, and saw the light at Cape St John - fresh gale, N.N.E. - we passed the Island, or near as six miles in parts - and it looked so cold with all the hills covered with snow - the wind increased and we have come down flying - have come to the southward of Diego Ramirez, for few thought the wind would come into the south west, so



G91.711

did not want to get jumbled on the coast.  
We were under three large topsails and the  
same to day, with the addition of the foresail.  
it blew hard last night and a big sea that  
rolled on board in quantities it is moderating  
some, and the sea going down a little. Jim has  
been on deck the past two nights, the greater  
part of the time. it is cold, but so far we  
saw no hail. The ship is remarkably easy  
and not as wet as the Shenandoah. If the  
wind will come into the South we are in a fine  
position to go on our way into the Pacific -  
have seen few vessels - Saturday or Sunday an  
English ship and back were in company -  
but have not seen them since the tide rips  
off the land were very strong - like a boiling  
cauldron. We are so thankful to have a moon,  
for the endless nights from three until eight  
would be so hard. I hope by another Sunday  
we will be in fifty South Pacific - if so,  
will have had an unusual chance. Jim is  
taking a much needed nap.



No 9. Tuesday, Aug first - yesterday were  
SHIP in Lat 49.05 Long, 84.55 - around the  
ARTHUR SEWALL. Cape in twelve days - a remarkably fine  
weather passage - five days of head winds  
from the North kept us from making a  
very quick passage round - the winds would  
not come into the South - we went South  
as far as 58.40 - have had some heavy hail  
and snow squalls - but we are getting North  
and the cold moderating - we have felt  
the cold very much - but the ship has  
proved a fine heavy weather boat, and  
remarkably dry - We stay or rather I do  
most of the time in the chart room -  
have an oil heater - I have slept here  
in the lounge all the way round the Cape -  
have not stowed away once - Iron ships  
are very cold - there is no way to heat  
the staterooms - the mate has one of  
our heaters -

Sunday, Aug. 6 - Lat. 36.44. Long. 90.20 -  
Seventy seven days out - a long time to be  
out of the busy world - Another week has  
passed, and we are getting farther North  
though not as fast as we hoped - had  
strong winds first of the week - middle, light



G91.111

Friday had quite a S. W. gale - going eleven knots, but it moderated in the night and yesterday was almost calm, with every appearance of Northerly winds - but fortunately a light S. S. E breeze came up, so we are going our course rejoicing - We do want to make a good passage, for the first voyage. We are out of the track of any vessels, so see nothing but sky and water - the Cape pigeons are still following - eager for scraps of fat.

I don't accomplish much - read and sew a little play with the animals - the pug dog comes in often - he is very brave and barks at the seas that come on board - the ship is remarkably dry - yesterday Jane and I made some sugar candy - we came away without any candy, and snico it. We do want to hear what is going on in the world - our ship seems like a little world by itself - now the weather is getting warmer, the men begin to work outside - We were only 22 days from 40° South Atlantic to 40° South Pacific. The ship is in a good position now unless we get Northerly winds -



No 10. Tuesday, Aug. 15 - Lat 15.17 <sup>Long. 95.</sup>

SHIP

ARTHUR SEWALL.

I did not write Sunday, so  
(will add a line now. The past  
week has dragged, with only an occa-  
sional good wind - to day have just  
got the S. E. trades - ought to have had  
them in 80° - have had N. W. and S. W.  
winds - something few never had before  
in the latitudes - we are so anxious to  
be getting on. Last Wednesday had quite  
a heavy gale from the N. W. with a big  
sea running - the weather is delightfully  
warm and the moonlight evenings are  
beautiful - have seen no vessel since  
passing the Cape - to day we washed  
our clothes - the first time since we  
were on the other side - so feel rather  
tired - it isn't a very good drying day,  
as there are misty squalls. every body  
is busy - the crew have been scraping  
paint off the iron and are now painting  
so everything will soon be shining.  
The crew are very cheery men and  
sing a good deal, and dance in the  
dog watch - the boys have the banjo and  
guitar out - we missed the music round the <sup>Cape</sup>.



I forgot to say the potatoes went <sup>G91/111</sup> bad off the Cape, so now are using the condensed which are very good. To day for dinner had vegetable soup (dried vegetables) - fresh meat with dumplings, potatoes, canned peas, and mince pie - the dried vegetables are very nice -

Sunday, Aug. 20 - Lat. 2.56 - Long. 104.05.

Nearing the "line", and soon hope to pass another of our land marks - the next one to look forward to, will be San F. - Thirteen weeks out, and our fourteenth Sunday - the weather is perfect and the moonlight evenings - it seems to me there could be nothing finer - The men have been painting all the week, and are getting on well - so that things begin to shine - we hope to be nearing port by the last of Sept., and as much sooner as possible - Jane and I are sewing, for we want nothing left to finish after arrival - the ocean is alive with flying fish and several have come on board which our kitten and Jim dog enjoy - our kitten grows more mischievous every day, and we fear will get overboard, he is so risky - how we want to hear <sup>from you all!</sup> -



No 11 - Tuesday, Aug. 29 - Lat. 16.18 <sup>North</sup> - Long. 115.30 <sup>West</sup>

SHIP

ARTHUR SEWALL.

I did not write Sunday, as it was too rough. We have had a gale of wind, and the sea of a hurricane. We were very thankful to escape the hurricane itself. It must have been blowing hard, not a great way from us, Sunday - the ship was all ready for whatever might come. Friday night there was the most flaming sunset, and the color kept for an hour or more after the sun set - barometer slowly falling - Saturday had heavy rain - then seemed to clear up, with a big S.W. sea - passed a ship bound same way - the first one since off the Cape - Saturday night, it breezed up fast and blew hard Sunday, as I said - sky looked bad at night, with a big N.W. sea. It moderated Monday, and barometer rose so we knew we were not to have a regular hurricane - the past twenty four hours have had a very turbulent sea, South and N.W. would take in water over the stern - now at some times, the sea is smoothing down and we hope soon to get the N.E. Trades. We had no holdrums last week, but



691.111

come right along - had heavy rain  
squalls, so now we feel as if the storm  
is all out of us, especially to day - very little  
breeze and very warm - We crossed the  
line Monday 93 days out - so now our  
prospects for making a fairly good pas-  
sage look promising - we all long to  
get in and see people and have a  
change of diet - the ship begins to shine.  
The rain last week interfered with  
the painting, but we hope to get at it  
in the dry weather - This is the most  
fishless voyage - have only seen flying  
fish - the men caught three skipjacks  
one night - I never saw so many flying  
fish - thousands in the air, escaping from  
their enemy - several came on board,  
which the keltin very much enjoyed -  
Jim dog has had another fit - poor  
thing wants a change -



No 12 Lat 22.22. Long 117

SHIP

ARTHUR SEWALL.

The sixteenth Sunday, and out fifteen weeks - The past week has not placed us very far along - first of the week, light airs, calm, and Saturday strong N.W. winds - last night there was every appearance of another hurricane around, breezing up strong N.W. to N.N.W. gales which were ahead of - Tacked ship as we were not more than three hundred miles off the coast of lower California - it blew a gale all night and is blowing hard now, with a tremendous sea from East - she has taken water over the stern several times to day - very unusual weather for these latitudes, we have no N.E. trade yet, though to day she heads up better - we are 1000 miles from San F. - "at the crow flies" but have to circle out to the West - we will be so glad to get in - plenty of <sup>water on</sup> deck to day.

Sunday, Sept. 10 - Lat. 33.18 - Long 135.10  
Fifteen weeks out, and no fair wind.



have had a week of head gales -  
 Last Sunday we were under whole  
 topsails. It blew until Thursday,  
 then moderated - breezed up again Friday  
 and is blowing fresh to day so we make  
 very little latitude and are getting  
 farther off to the westward - we  
 had every reason to hope of being  
 in port in 118 or 120 days - but now  
 unless the winds haul we cant tell  
 when - the wind has not moved for  
 four or five days - big sea, sometimes  
 pitching bow under - we have had  
 very peculiar weather since crossing  
 the line - usually have fine weather  
 had no real N. E. trades - Jim has  
 had the hardest time getting the  
 ship painted, for the water has  
 come on board so much, before the  
 paint could harden - we have had  
 more water on the quarter the past  
 week than off the Cape - Yesterday  
 was James' birthday - we did not celebrate  
 her father gave her \$25 which pleased  
 her very much - We are busy with our  
 work, part of the time - We all need  
 a change of diet - if not too rough, we  
 are going to make some caramels this

afternoon



No 13. Monday, Sept. 18. Lat., 36.54. Long, 130.50

SHIP  
ARTHUR SEWALL.

Well, here we are still on the ocean

When we hoped so confidently, to be in port.

When writing a week ago Sunday, we were  
having fresh head gales - the wind never shifted  
for several days - we were in 38. <sup>(the kitten is on</sup> ~~28~~ the deck?

Long, 137.30 on Thursday - tacked ship, and the  
wind headed us off, so that we made some  
southings - most discouraging - began to moderate  
Friday, wind still ahead - Saturday, calm,  
and the ship drifted 24 miles south. Sunday  
a flat calm - It was our twenty fifth anniversary  
did not celebrate, and the day passed very  
quietly - It aired up a little last night,  
and in the right direction, so to day we  
were four hundred miles away, and unless  
we have a calm or fog, ought to be in  
sometime this week. We are all tired of  
the sea and sky - our men keep cheerful  
though, and entertain us after tea with songs  
and dancing - one young man from N.Y. State  
is so musical - has a fine voice - they sing  
more than any crew we ever had - Several  
have made models of the ship and are very  
nice - they must have been industrious - The  
cook has been poorly a good deal of the



631111  
passage - some slight trouble - so the captain few  
days is laid up, and Steward has to take  
his place, with the help of one of the boys.

Jane has been writing to her Sabbath school  
boys - I have only written my log - we got  
weighed to day - Jem weighs 232 - I, 154.  
I felt that I had lost some - and Jane  
has too - she has no appetite at sea - we  
miss T. G. Northey - Our ink does not write  
well, being fluid, and our best is used up -  
so I use this red stuff -

Monday, Sept. 25. At anchor outside the  
bar, how does that sound? If ever  
one could find a more disappointed  
crowd of people! when I wrote a week  
ago we were sure to be in by Wednesday  
at the latest, a week ago Sunday was  
the last day we had an observation -  
Tuesday was overcast and Wednesday  
the fog set in - a dangerous place where  
the currents are so strong, then the chronometers  
were fifty miles apart - the fog was so  
thick, you couldn't see a mile - Thursday  
afternoon, we heard the surf, and then  
high land and boulders, went about ships,  
but the fog settled down, could see  
only a dim outline of buildings, for a moment.



SHIP  
ARTHUR SEWALL.

No 14 - since then have been beating  
back and forth - the winds became  
light, ending in flat calm -  
for three nights, we stood off shore  
for a few miles then would stand in  
again - Saturday afternoon we heard  
a steamer's whistle, and in a few moments  
she came in sight - she heard our  
fog horn and came down to us,  
passed so near that Jim spoke, and  
asked him his latitude that noon -  
he himself got half a sight - it was  
a transport, probably from Manila, bound  
in - Jim asked to be reported, if he got  
in - It is such a trial on ones nerves  
to be sailing through thick fog, and  
only a whistle now and then - yesterday  
it was a flat calm, and as the ship  
was sagging in shore, Jim anchored  
in the afternoon in thirteen fathoms of  
water - he has taken soundings every  
day - so this morning it is dense - It lifted  
a little around us yesterday for a few  
minutes, and saw a little vessel anchored  
about three ships' length from us. We are  
about five miles off the beach, and judge  
are seven from the Golden Gate - it seems to  
be lifting a little now - if it does, so a tug



can see us. Everybody on board is so disappointed - but they bear up bravely, and the men sang cheerily at the pumps. some of the rivets are loose and she has to be pumped out. The captain of the little vessel told us the bar light ship is in the city being repaired. Jim was listening for it and could not imagine why we did not hear it - we could hear Point Bonita horn all day yesterday, at the entrance to the harbor. Jim got a good sleep last night, for he had been on deck night and day. We have not been near enough to the Farallones to hear the whistles there.

This morning the fog lifted so we could see half a mile, for a short time, and there is a schooner not far away. It was so thick last evening when we were on deck, we could not see the topside of our ship. Afternoon - towing into the city. The fog lifted a little, and a pilot came off - soon after a tug came out, and as there was no wind to go to him - we found the lack of the light ship delayed us - we passed the buoys that marked where she had been but did not know being so thick. We hope to get our letters this afternoon.



Ship "Arthur Sewall"

SHIP  
ARTHUR SEWALL.

Thanksgiving day, November 30 '99.

Pacific Ocean, Lat. 28.35<sup>N</sup> Long. 120.30

My dear home.

How wide apart one year can make a family! Just one year ago, we were having our family dinner, with only dear Wilder away - now we are all separated. I know you are all thinking the same - In spite of all, we still have a great deal to be thankful for - and I trust the coming year will bring those who are still here, together.

It is a glorious sunny day, and the beautiful sunshine and balmy air put new strength into us. The thought of another long voyage seemed rather formidable to think of, but now we are on our way, it seems as if we always sailed the ocean. We came into the stream early Friday morning, Nov. 24.

Then went on shore in the boat, coming off about five, in a boat, with our young friend Lillian, who is one of our family now.



Jen and Charley came later, the latter remaining the night - I wrote several letters in the evening - We started Saturday morning in tow - the bar was very rough, and had been breaking only a day or so before, but we got over all right - There was only a light southerly wind and big west sea, so the ship rolled more than she did coming out - then it was a thick fog - so the horn had to be used - We spoke the "Amy Turner" that came out the same morning - our friend Miss Abbott being a passenger to Honolulu - we had great fun talking through the Megaphone - Foggy all day Sunday - partly calm - did nothing but roll around and read - Lillian has been a little sick, but not real seasick - to day she feels fine and I think will enjoy the voyage - she already is much company for us - Yesterday the wind came into the North - and have had two 200 mile days - so will soon run down into warm weather - We had a nice dinner to day, in honor of Thanksgiving, <sup>chicken soup,</sup> roast chickens, roast fresh beef, sweet and fresh potatoes, onions, apple sauce - apple



2 pie, custard pudding - bananas and oranges -  
We have two Turkeys, but will save them  
for Christmas - Our pullets we bought  
from Elfsburg Seamen, and they are beginning  
to lay - so will have fresh eggs all the  
voyage - the young roosters are to eat - also  
have young pigs - Everybody most is new  
on board, with the exception of the mate,  
and boy Dean - We seem to have a good  
second officer, who has been first, there  
are four boys, two have never been to  
sea - Nothy flourishes round in his usual  
manner, but he makes things comfortable -  
I wont write more now -

Sunday, Dec. 2nd. Lat. 23.54. Long 118.40  
Since writing Thanksgiving day, the  
winds have been very light calm at  
times - it is too bad, for it is the time  
of year to have strong winds - aside from  
lack of wind, the weather is perfect -  
summer is here - I have been reading  
old "Times" and "Independents" most of the  
day, not taking time for it in port -

Sunday is a long day at sea. We  
amuse ourselves watching the fowl and  
pigs - yesterday, let out on deck twenty  
two young roosters, and they enjoyed the



chance to stretch - few clipped one wing <sup>G91,111</sup>

of each, to keep them from going overboard.

It was fun to get them into the coop at night, for a hen always goes in the opposite direction - Our pullets are beginning to lay, so will have fresh eggs to eat every day - had no hens coming out -

Lillian seems perfectly contented, and is so much company - we four play whist every evening -

Sunday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> - Lat.  $21.45^{\circ}$  <sup>yesterday -</sup> Long.  $128.20^{\circ}$ .

It has been too warm to write, or else there has been so little to write about.

When I last wrote, we were having light air, and very fine weather - got the N.E. trades in  $16^{\circ}$  north Long  $117.50^{\circ}$  and had a few good days' work - the best 235 - Jim thinks she sails better this time - had very little rain through the doldrums - Sunday, the 17<sup>th</sup> full moon, there was a partial eclipse of the moon - just after rising - We crossed the "line" the 15<sup>th</sup>, Friday, and the men celebrated Sunday afternoon - it was quite funny but <sup>not</sup> nearly so good as last voyage, as there is no musical instrument - the



3 men were blacked up, and in all  
sorts of rige. I made a veil for the

SHIP  
ARTHUR SEWALL.

brides - there were five or more  
men who were shaved - and they  
were well plastered up with the  
vilest mess. These men sing pretty  
well, but they need music - we miss  
it so much. The moon light evenings  
are so beautiful, for the weather is  
unusually warm, as the S. E. trades are  
light - so we sit on decks after tea  
until time for our three games of whist  
after that, go on deck again.

The past week having been busy making  
our Christmas preparations, though  
simple, they will cause pleasure.

We have been hoping to come near  
Pitcairns' Island, but don't know  
as we will come near enough to  
see it - it is right on our course -  
the past few days we are just  
fanning along, when we ought to  
have strong winds - Jan and Lillian  
are so much company for each other -  
they read together a good deal and  
are posting themselves in London and Paris.  
We all enjoy Lillian so much, she is so



691.111  
cheery and bright. All hands are busy  
painting ship, for it is the finest kind  
of weather for that - Our hens are  
a source of much entertainment - watching  
them - and they are laying finely - one  
hen is as tame as possible, and we  
take her out of the coop - We have two  
turkeys, one for Christmas and the other  
for New Year. One of the pigs will  
be roasted for the men.

Christmas morning. I "Merry Christmas"  
to you all, and I trust all is well  
with you, as it is with us - We are  
waifs on the ocean, but in spite of  
that, have been so generously remembered  
with presents. We arranged them last  
night in the cabin, each having a cor-  
ner, and they were opened this morn-  
ing in turn - On Jemi's table, were  
a pair of handsome suspenders from Jane -  
beautiful silk quilt from mother - pen  
wiper and a lovely water-color sketch from  
Lillian - little thatched roof cottage with pick  
holder, from the Dicks - also a quaint burnt  
wood calendar from the Dicks - a little red  
stocking full of funny jokes from Lillian's  
cousins - a pair of stout slippers from me - also



4 Two night shirts I made. We had lots of fun opening the stockings, for each of us had one. <sup>Jane also had a rubber tobacco pouch from Gussie Vesaria.</sup>

Jane had a lovely tite-tite set of Chinese from "Grandma", a kimono from me \$20 from her father, a pretty address book from Ellie Dickey - handkerchief from Gussie V. - book from Lillian - neck fichu from Ellie D. - pair of Turkish slippers from Lillian's Aunt - little doilies from Maude M. and Eleanor.

I had \$20 from Jenn - portfolio from Lillian - handkerchief from Gussie - silver mounted hat brush - from Mrs. Dickey - lavender satin pin cushion from Ellie D. - a lovely embroidered sofa pillow from mother - and hanging vase from Lillian.

I gave Lillian a kimono like Jane's - Jenn gave her \$5 - Jane a pink silk work bag - and she had lots of things from her family. We had such a good time opening them - The girls made a candy bag for all the men on board - I made canvas caps for the officers - a pig and turkey are now roasting in the oven, so a good dinner is ahead of us.

Steward has the dining cabin finely decorated with flags, and Wilder's picture in one corner, and Gussie V's in another - he has apples and oranges suspended - so the room looks quite



festive - The men have the holiday <sup>G91.111</sup>  
and the only drawback is the head  
wind - but that is better than no  
wind, as we have had it calm  
the past two days. We hoped to be  
off Pitcairn's Island to day, and  
possibly be near enough to see it,  
but fear we won't. I trust we  
all have thankful hearts for all  
our blessings - We wish Wilder could  
be with us, for it seems hard that  
he can't, as long as he is sailing  
the same ocean.

Later - Our dinner was fine and well  
served - everybody on board appreciated it.  
In the afternoon it came up equally and  
winds came in dead ahead - the men had  
to pull braces and shorten sail, so did not  
have any games. Holidays after all, are  
reminders of those past, and as each one  
comes around, there must be changes  
sooner or later - where will we be next  
Christmas!



5 Sunday, December 31st - 1899. my last entry in this log for the nineteenth century. By and by, we who have lived in the last century will seem old -

Lat. 34.46 Long. 124.30. We have had a scize of head winds up to yesterday when it changed to more favorable, and to day is as fair as one needs. We did not come near enough to Pitcairn Island, much to our disappointment, the girls especially. We were becalmed for a day, about a hundred miles from there, so felt disappointed that we couldn't have been a day ahead -

The nearest land was Larcie Island which we passed about eighteen miles to the Eastward. though did not see it, as it is low land. The past week has passed quietly with sewing and reading - poor Jim has been suffering with an inflamed tooth, and he will be glad when all his teeth are out. He has had more than his share of toothache. To day it half rains and mists, but we are glad to catch some water. We have had such beautiful dry weather -

One day the past week, Jim was obliged to chloroform the black cat brought from shore the night before we sailed. He had no idea of cleanliness, and was such a care to watch, that we concluded it would be kinder



to put him out of the way. I would not  
have had him drowned, I have such a  
horror of the water myself. Our little "Scrappy"  
seems much relieved that the old black  
is gone, for they did not agree.

Our hens are fine - one tame one, has been  
sort of sick, so keep her by herself - but she  
is better now - one day got 13 eggs - good for  
seventeen hens - our roosters are getting  
less as we eat them twice a week. Jim  
loves to cut up onions for them, and they  
are so tame and follow him about.

New Year, Monday after tea - Our good  
winds nearly left us last night, so  
now have only a light breeze.

I wish you all a very Happy New  
Year, and all the good things one  
can reasonably expect. The girls and  
I sat up til midnight, when the three  
ship bells rung out merrily - we all  
rushed up and wished Jim a Happy  
New Year, as he had gone to bed.  
Then we all went into the pantry and  
had bread and sardines. The girls  
made molasses candy in the evening.  
For dinner we had roast Turkey, cran-  
berry sauce, mashed potatoes, squash, green  
peas, beets, ripe olives, pea soup (I forgot)  
mince and blueberry pie - pretty good for  
these latitudes. Lat 37.35. Long 122.30



No 6 January 14 - 1900. Lat.  $56^{\circ}02'$  Long  $73.50$ .

In the Cape Horn region, and a most beautiful day, with a fair ten knot breeze.

Since last writing, we have been through a terrible siege of gales, or rather hurricanes. - I last wrote New Year's day - for two or three days had squally weather and light ~~breeze~~ <sup>South west</sup> winds - unusually warm weather. - Friday, it breezed up West and rainy, barometer falling - Saturday, fresh to strong gale, N. N. W. to West - quite a S. W. sea running. (I am copying from Jern's "log" - early that morning we passed an English four masted ship, under short sail - we had every thing set. - It breezed up that afternoon S. W. with heavy squalls, from 8 to 10 that evening blowing a hurricane, from S. S. W. - the sea commenced to run high, by eight o'clock - I braced myself on the lounge in the chart room, but could not think of sleep - at half past ten, shipped a sea from aft, going forward to ship's bow - This sea broke both quarter boats, by the midship house, all to pieces, nothing saved, broke and washed away. Standard binnacle and compass on top of boys' house, staying in skylight



in boy's house, flooding them <sup>631, III</sup> with  
water - they thought they were overboard -  
broke the bridge, and main and  
mizzen hatch bars. some sea stove  
in the hen coop that was lashed  
to the top of the after hatch, near  
the after house, losing seventeen hens,  
and four roosters - it was a miracle  
that no one was washed overboard -  
The watch had been standing on the  
top of the midship house only five  
minutes before - the decks were flooded  
every few minutes, so it was impossible  
for one to <sup>stay</sup> there - Jim had been  
steering for half an hour, and had  
just come down into the cabin to  
light a lantern - it was a mercy  
that he was not on deck - the  
water poured down the skylights in  
the cabins and we were all up bailing  
water - It would come under the  
doors in the chart room, and the  
two forward doors in torrents - the  
officers rooms were flooded, several  
times - seas forty feet high came on  
board - all this was before midnight  
Saturday, the 6th of January I said we  
lost 17 hens - they saved two -



No 7. This unheard of weather was in  
Lat. 43.48 - Long. 103.30. a place where  
one would not expect very heavy weather.  
No one slept that night. - few was on  
deck all the time - these great seas  
would board the ship ten feet above  
her taffrail, and run forward to mid-  
ships, submerging the decks five feet  
below the rail - this big sea was South-  
and the wind S.W. - they would have  
to shout at each other on deck, to be  
heard. By four o'clock Monday morning  
it began to moderate.

Sunday forenoon, she shipped another  
big sea aft, breaking in the after light  
in the wheel house, and pouring down  
the cabin skylight - I was lying  
down with Lillian, both of us terrified -  
Jane kept up all the time looking out  
the windows, and bailing water - I always  
want to hide like a rat - the mate  
and two men fell and were hurt.

The sea still ran high, but as  
it moderated, the sea did not come  
over with such force. the lowest barometer  
was 28.70 - the heaviest gale was with the  
barometer 28.44.



Left this by mistake

G91.111



No 8  
Jim went behind the wheel house to  
nail a piece of canvas over the broken  
window, and a sea completely submerged  
him, he held on to the rail, so kept  
his feet - this was ~~Sunday~~ <sup>afternoon</sup> Sunday. It blew  
an ordinary gale until Wednesday,  
with a big South sea, but we felt it  
was nothing compared with what we  
had been through. Since then we  
have had fine Westly and W. N. W winds  
and very fine, though the barometer has  
been unusually low, and now is only 29.14.

Jim says, on all his going to sea, he  
never saw such a sea! and especially  
in that latitude. We feel thankful that  
no lives were sacrificed - We women  
have been completely unnerved, and I  
don't think I could stand many such  
gales. The mate was not laid up from  
his fall, and the other men are out.

I have spent so much time telling  
about the gale, that I have not mentioned  
the loss of our dear little kitten "Scrappy".

Tuesday night after tea, on the 2nd,  
he got outside the rail on the wheel-  
back and fell overboard - Jane heard  
the splash, so father and second mate  
tried to get him - the <sup>2nd</sup> mate went down



a rope over the stern, and the poor little thing got on to the rudder but was crashed off, and was swept away - Jim ordered out the boat and they rowed a long way astern, but I suppose the eddies drew him down.

One would not suppose we would miss a little kitten so much, but we do, from Jim down - he was as fond of the kitten as the rest of us.

I never saw such an interesting little kitten - he was different from any I ever saw. He would get out on the whaleback, and was always so daring, and so full of play - but I ~~try~~ to feel thankful a life was not lost instead of a little animal - I won't write more now. Trusting we will get around the Cape all right.



No 9. Lat. 45.05 - South Atlantic - Long. 44.35 -

Sunday, January 21st - 1900 -

Around the stormy Cape Horn, and a little beyond - When I finished writing last Sunday, we had a fine fair wind, and were to sight Ile de Fonso, west of Cape Horn, in the night - at sunset it looked bad, and wind came in North east strong gale, so had to come south of Diego Ramirez the Islands further south - had a good view of them - It was quite moderate that noon, but breezed up after dinner and blew hard, shipping quantities of water on the main deck - I have got to be a perfect coward when the wind blows hard now - It moderated in the night with a fair wind - still the barometer was not inclined to rise much - up a little, then down - to day is the first float it has had for two weeks -

The rest of the week was squally, and strong breezes from N.W.W. - N.W. - very little S.W. winds - we kept our course, and were 8 days from 50° to 50° - which is good - the big sea got down - Yesterday noon had a heavy thunder squall - but it was the beginning of clearing up weather - Now we have fresh gale S. S.W. and are shipping



along, ten knots - wind is almost too fair. <sup>G91.11</sup>  
but the sun shines beautifully, and  
we all feel thankful to leave Cape  
Horn far behind, Lillian hoped to  
see it near, but was obliged to  
be content with just a distant view.

We passed every thing we saw, with  
the exception of one four masted ship -  
saw several vessels bound the other  
way. We wondered if Joe were down  
this way, to batt against the westerly  
gales. One time passed quietly - week  
days, we play several games a day of  
Parchee, and whist in the evening.

The girls have their sewing and history.  
The last week, Jim has been having  
a hard time with his right ankle -  
he declared it was rheumatism, but  
it was bruised where he had struck  
it or twisted it in the gale - several  
nights he scarcely slept, or day, time -  
it was badly swollen - to day it is much  
better, so has had a comfortable nap.

We miss our kitten so much, for  
there is nothing to pet but a tame  
hen - the three survivors of the storm  
are still in the lazaretto and start to come  
into the cabin the moment the door is open.



No 10 two of them are laying - It does seem too bad that they were lost, for they were laying so finely and we all took so much interest in them - one is interested in anything on board ship.

At present we are feasting on fresh pork, being on the second - they are not very large pigs, but fine quality.

There is no place where pork chops taste as they do down here. Steward makes caramels, coconut candy, and nut candy so we have everything the stomach needs - but we would like to hear how the world is getting along without us.

Wilder is in our thoughts all the time, and we wonder if he has arrived - and where he will go from San F. - it is such a disappointment that we could not meet - I have been reading most of the day - mostly old San F. papers, about things that happened while we were on the way, out - a little ancient, but still new to us.

The time cannot go too fast, now, for we feel that we are headed towards the North Star, and home - I am very indolent and spend most of my time reading, and playing games with Jim - we play cribbage a good deal.



No 11 - Sunday, February 4th 1900. <sup>Trill</sup> Lat 24.10. Long 23.40.

I have not written for two weeks, there being such a dearth of ideas - We are just crawling along, the past week, and part of the time flat calm and so warm. to day is the hottest yet, and it is impossible to keep comfortable - 86° in the cabin at noon - We have a big awning over the spunker boom, and have been on the quarter deck most of the day.

Week before last, we had some fine days work, with the sea almost like a river - had very little southerly winds - mostly Northerly, we hoped to have a good chance to the "line", as we came through the forties so well - we get little "cat-paw" breezes, then flat calm enough to try a saint.

Thursday signalized a fine four masted ship, "Madeline" - French ship from Iquique - she is still in sight astern - we saw one bark in the distance, last week bound East - I have not accomplished very much - it is so warm, I read part of the time - and we play cards and "Pachessi" often.

Last week, two fine dolphins were caught, one large enough for all hands - This afternoon, some of the men caught several bonitoes, over the bow - they are very good - a big shark came near this forenoon, but before the bait was ready, he left.



G91.111

Londra seems a long way off, these are  
hot days - you would laugh to see our  
trillets - just as little clothing as possible.

One there here do the best they can to  
keep us in fresh eggs - some days get two -  
the third hen, the flet, lays soft shelled one  
all the time - she lacks something - they have  
plenty of crashed oyster shells - they are so tame  
walk into the cabins, every time the doors  
are left open - We miss our kitten so much  
for he was so funny and lively - Our one  
piggie travels around the deck like a dog -  
follows the cook every where -

The girls are busy all the time, with their  
reading and sewing - also practice painting  
the sunsets - they are perfectly gorgeous here  
in these parts - After reading what I have  
written to day, you will not wonder that  
I do not write often -

The past week, the men have planed the  
main deck - a big job. Steward is painting  
the ceilings and after rooms - he gives us  
quite a variety at table -



No 12. Lat.  $4.40^{\circ}$  North Long  $32.0^{\circ}$

Across the line, and no feel that there is a frost somewhere - The last time I wrote was Feb. 4th - so very warm, and such light airs - we had them until the 9th, when we got the S.E. trade, in Lat.  $19.10$  - Long  $26.20$  - We had ten days of calm and light airs - since then have come straight along. Crossed the "line" Friday, the 16th - have had no coldness - very little rain - we are so glad to have a breeze, for we have had a long siege of very warm weather - to day, had some delicious broiled Dolphin fish are scarce, so when we do catch one, it tastes good - Everybody is busy painting ship, and it begins to look fine, so much white paint - Friday, spoke two steamers, and asked to be reported - one was going to Brazil - the other to England - We were in company with the French ship several days, and left her astern out of sight - she after ward came up and passed us and left us - have seen nothing the past two days -



G. 91. III

Iue and I have each had a birth day, and are one more year on the down hill of life - the years go too quickly now - and I remember how glad I used to be to have a birthday come - The girls are full of plans and have been reading up London and Paris, all the voyage, they also accomplish a good deal of sewing - more than I can say -

One of our sailors, a Frenchman is in consumption, and has a dreadful cough - he is not able to work now - Jenn gives him medicine, and a tonic, and I make him drop syrup - I hope he will live to get in -

Sunday is a long day - I get tired of reading - Our hens still furnish us with variety - they persist in coming into the cabins - one came in this forenoon, and flew up on the side board - when she saw her reflection in the glass, you would have laughed - for she thought it a strange hen and tried to fight, as they do - by picking each other's combs -



No 13 - Sunday, March 4th - Lat, 27.50. Long, 35.00

I don't know as I will be able to write very much, the ship rolls so, but will "make a bluff at it," as old Hogg said.

This is the fourth day of strong head gales, with a big sea. Have been under three ~~lower~~ top-sails, with fore-sail some of the time - tremendous squalls, and yesterday morning, thunder and lightning, and hail - never had a bit of hail coming around Cape Horn. The ship has made some heavy rolls, so that it has been hard to keep on our feet, and one night, sleep was hard to get - that night, I made my bed on the floor. Have made very little

brothing, but plenty of eating -

I last wrote the 18th of Feb - were across the "line" and made a fine week's work following - our ropes were well set up - alas! we fell into a calm hole and just faired along for four days, then this northerly gale set in, so I don't now look farther off than ever. We have to bear it with the best grace possible - but it has put an end to our



hopes of a quick passage. It <sup>must</sup> be blowing very hard to the North to send down such a sea. Jim says he never had such weather in these latitudes.

You would laugh to see our attempts to play cards and "parchessi", finally have to give it up. Last night passed a vessel bound the same way - is out of sight to day.

I don't have much courage when it blows so hard, some days. The barometer keeps low, but I trust we are at the end or nearing its of these head winds. We have all been reading the snout of the day - one gets tired of it - it has been too rough to sail, the past two days.

We are all so desirous to hear how everything is - so much may happen in a few weeks - ~~thirteen~~ weeks since we left port! To day is Mary Briggs' birthday. Wilder's will be the next this month, and our baby will be twenty one. I wish he was our little boy again.

Our sick man keeps about the same. I hope he will live to get in.

The ship looks so well with the fresh paint, outside and in. I hope my next entry will have more fair winds.



No 14 Sunday, March 11th - Lat. 38. Long. 33.50 - yesterday.

I am writing in the forenoon, before Jim wakes up his sight, but we can't be much farther ahead - the post cook has been most trying. Last Sunday, were having a head gale, with a big sea. It kept up until Wednesday, moderating so could get out on again. Friday, made a fine day's work 235 miles - then the wind died out, giving the sea a chance to go down some. We hoped for southerly winds, but none came nothing but North east. yesterday morning there was a heavy North gale, and it blew a gale nearly all day, dying out to a two knot breeze.

This morning is about the same, so have gone on the other tack, heading N. N. W. - which won't bring us to London town - We have had the hardest chance since crossing the line, with the exception of a few days of N. E. trades. The snow is growing, all the time, and we hoped to go in, on the full. This morning a bark in ballast passed us, bound to the West - fair wind for him. Fretting won't help matters, so have to make the best of it. We pass our time, day after day, as usual - play our games, when not too rough - talk to our pig, and three hens - and scow. some days we get quite lively. Lillian is so much company, and enjoys her voyage so much, though of course wants to arrive now, as we all do. The weather begins to feel



cool, though have no cabin fire yet - have  
a heater, in the bath room. The new paint makes  
the rooms look very nice, and the floors are  
being shellaced - J. G. Northey is very busy, for  
he has done the painting inside - and wants  
everything to shine - He is one of those rare  
persons, who really love to work -

Poor Jim gets so discouraged, and not to be  
bored at, to be headed off all the time  
with head winds - but if we can arrive all  
right, we will be thankful. You will see what  
a dearth of ideas there is - but we have no new  
subjects. I hope you are having an open spring,  
not like last March - how I long to hear  
from you all! Wilder is in my mind, day  
and night -

Sunday A. M. - March 18th - I am writing  
this forenoon, before observations, but our latitude  
yesterday, was 45.10 - Long. 29.50 - some distance  
yet from port. Last Sunday, were having  
N.E. - breeze. The next two days, had a light  
fair wind, but there was such a head sea,  
could not get ahead - day's work like  
20 miles - 25 miles - enough to try the patience  
of Job. Then the wind came in strong E. N. E.  
just the way we wanted to go - We were  
coming between two of the Western Islands, but  
had to come to the westward of Flores, the  
N. Western one of the group - We had a fine



No 15 view of the west side of the island, and could see two small villages - one of the prettiest sights was three streams of water coming down the mountains - the land is mountainous and the villages down in the low lands near the sea - I'm glad we saw it - Jim's reckoning was just right - he missed the standard compass that was wrecked off - N.E. of Flores, is the island of Coiro - we saw that in the distance. Our head winds lasted until last night when the wind came into N.N.W. - the first fair wind since we were in the forties South Atlantic - today it is blowing fresh, with heavy squalls, but the sun shines - there is a big head sea yet - Friday was our dear boy's twenty first birthday - we wished he could have been with us - he is a man in years, but will always seem our little boy -

Our pig's life has come to an end, and we are eating chops which taste good, although we feel something like cannibals - he was so tame and came into the cabin every chance he could get - the hens think nothing of walking in - they lay every other day, so are doing their duty - The weather is cool, for we have no south winds - I'm so glad Spring is coming - We busy ourselves with sewing and the girls are embroidering linen - Jane has some lovely pieces done -



No 16. Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>  
Lat. 47.0 Long 15.00

G 91. III

Still afloat, and the victim of head winds. When writing last Sunday, we had a fair wind which lasted just twelve hours and then came in ahead. and has remained Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, we had regular Cape Horn weather, with a tremendous sea. Three nights I made my bed on the floor - I have lost what service I had. The ship rolled a good deal, and shipped plenty of water. Squall after squall, with lightning. We were under three lower topsails for three days - Tuesday, from "have the ships to", the sea was so big. Thursday it moderated - for a time - then heavy squalls would come. yesterday, all sail was set, and it was almost a calm at times. As day has been misty, squally, calm at times, and the wind dead ahead. have made 360 miles in seven days. London is a long way off, at the rate we are going. The sea has gone down some - how a wind can remain in one quarter as it does, beats all previous experience. It has been an Easterly moon. Saw a bark bound with us one day. but have seen no ships. This is a head wind entry, so not very cheerful - and I'd better not write any more, but trust to get a fair wind.



No 17 Monday morning, April 2nd.

SHIP

ARTHUR SEWALL.

Moored to a buoy off Gravesend, Thames river.


At last we are near our destination, and it is a great relief. When writing, a week ago Sunday, we felt that London was a long way off. The next two days were gales and furious squalls, N. N.E., and N. N.E., dying out to a calm Wednesday - Wednesday night it freshened up into S. S.W. with rain, clearing up into E. S. E. and fine - we were then about north of Uthant, on the French side - It looked like a long beat up the channel but providentially a tug boat on its way from Cardiff to London came along and we took it, for there was scarcely any breeze and that dead ahead. It has been ideal towing, for there has been no fog - Saturday morning we were off the Isle of Wight where I - signaled - We were much interested in the towns along the channel - Sunday noon we were at Gravesend where we are now - the channel pilot came on board about eleven Friday night and he has left, another river pilot taking his place.

There is an immense amount of traffic in the channel and the lights looked so pretty, especially the lights of the towns we passed. The river is alive with boats of every size and description - On the opposite side of Gravesend is Tilbury, where there are barracks.

There is a big old fashioned arched gate that led to the ancient fort, with a moat around it. Even



Elizabeth came there and rode through the <sup>gate</sup> when she came to see her fleet start off -

Gravesend is the nucleus of London town - We had no idea of going ashore - but after getting this far, found no orders as to the dock we are going to, and as they begin about here, have to wait - It seems strange that no one came or sent word to notify the ship - A boatman came on board in the morning yesterday, and after we were moved I sent him ashore for meat and vegetables - We had plenty to look at for steamers and an English gunboat were anchored all about, and a ferry came across close by - Directly opposite is the Clarendon Hotel, and an American flag floating - quite a surprise Our ship attracted much attention and we could see people gazing at her from every quarter - About three men asked if we would not like to go ashore, as he wanted to cable - of course we were not long deciding, and hiring a boat, were soon on land - Imagine how one feels after walking on planks for 127 days, to be once more on pavements! - The Customs House officer told us an Indian Princess was buried in a church yard in Gravesend, so after landing we went there, as it was only a little distance - We found the quaintest old church yard with huge flat grave stones, then the whole grave covered with stones the shape of a coffin - like this  hideous things -



No 18 - We could not find it, so enquired and were directed inside the church, where we found

SHIP

ARTHUR SEWALL.

a large marble tablet with the inscription - A lady told us she is supposed to be buried somewhere about the altar - We were much interested, for there was always so much romance connected with Pocahontas - found there, I engaged an open

carriage and drove to the telegraph office to cable for himself and Lillian - he had the longest time getting them to understand where Maine and California were - and what was Maine? "a town?" and was California a town, and was it "near Maine?" After the matter was settled, we drove out into the country and didn't we enjoy the fields! the roads are fine, and we passed such quaint old houses, some of them over two hundred years old -

Many thatched roof buildings - one was honeycombed with holes, where birds had made their homes - Grassland is noted for its huge chalk cliffs, shrimps and watercress.

We passed immense pits, and some are forty feet deep of clear chalk. We passed great fields of hops or rather poles, where they grow in the season -

The season seems backward for they have frosts almost every night and the trees are only budded - and just a tinge of green in the fields - we saw great garden spots ploughed up - and the pretty English lanes with Hawthorne hedges. We also passed a place noted for the fine cress grown - a narrow stream just soaked



for the cross has to be planted every season 69/111

We got back to the train at six, and went to the Hotel Clarendon opposite for some dinner for we were hungry as bears, as well as longing for a change of food. It is a very comfortable hotel and we were received with great cordiality - such a dinner as we ate; clear soup, beef steak, fried potatoes, green beans, cream and lettuce, fresh butter and bread spread - we ate plate after plate of it, for the slices weren't much thicker than knife blades. Marmalade and delicious tea. One ship looked fine in the river, so long - and we were told she was the finest ship ever in the river -

When we got back, found some Swedish gentlemen had been on board, one a Swedish Count who left his card - they were from a Swedish steamer anchored near - one being the Captain - the girls had lots of fun, talking it up, and regretting a lost opportunity of making an impression in a live Count - A funny thing happened to me. The end of the corridor was divided off by plate glass doors in the hotel, and as I looked through it, not knowing how near I was, I gave the bridge of my nose such a crack, cut right into the skin - it ached pretty hard. After coming on board I bound a piece of raw beef on it so it looks much better this morning - I don't see how I could eat myself against a smooth surface. We feel impatient to get word from home - Jim left for London this morning on the 8.30 train, to find out where they want the ship, and to enter at the Customs House. It is thick fog and I don't imagine



No 19. We can get up to day. We long and almost dread to hear from you all. We want so much to hear from Willem. In a <sup>shipping</sup> paper there is no notice of the ship leaving for England. I hope and pray the dear boy is well. I don't seem to have any nerve left, and am so easily upset. But it must be on account of being in the sea so long - and this long drag from 24° north into port.

The French ship, Madelaine, in company with us in the South Atlantic was in ahead of us, but we can find no account of those ~~that~~ sailed with us.

It is very dark now with a yellow fog, so we won't get to town to day. It was lovely and sunny sailing up yesterday. How horrible the English war in Africa is - the papers are full of it - and such a loss of life!

We saw a number of red coats in the town yesterday. I have written to no one this voyage, so must to day - the girls have theirs all ready to send.

Our sailors I suppose are longing to get in - when land is in sight - the ship looks very nice. We have had some of the loveliest Chinese blues this voyage - the Chinaman gave us several bulbs, and we put them into crates twice, so had flower most of the way - cut off the last bulb Saturday - the blossoms were double. I must not write more now.



G91.111

Tuesday morning. We have here to day, to be towed to London. too foggy to go yesterday.

We were surprised enough to see Wilder yesterday, and so rejoiced to see him again - he has had a hard time. It is so hard for such a boy to have such a load to carry. But I thank God he is honest, and has done nothing wrong. Somebody forged his name and drew from the bank in Sydney with an amount of money. The poor boy was crushed when he went to the bank and found it out - he put a detective at work, but thinks he was no good - he kept quiet about it, thinking it would come out better - he has had this on his mind all these weeks - I am ~~feeling~~ terribly about it, but he knows Wilder has done the best he could.

The Swalls hold him responsible for this money - Don't say anything about this until I write again. I only hope and pray that people will not think he has been dishonest - those who know him will not.

Am so glad you are all well, and that you had such a good visit - this is a class place, and very expensive for ships - I will write in a day or two. Lovingly, Maria



201  
Miss May Briny  
13 Grove St

SHIP  
ARTHUR SEWALL.

San Francisco  
Oct. 23 '99.

My dear Sophie -

You will begin to think something has happened to me, for I write so seldom - but if you could see how much commotion there is about a ship, you would not wonder so many business men, coming to see Jim, and usually the chart room is occupied - Jim's mother spent nearly four weeks with us, and we talked so much of the time, and played cards evenings, there seemed to be little time for writing - she enjoyed the change, and I hope it did her good, for she has so much care at home - I never saw a more capable woman - she makes and plans all the clothes for the children, and her fingers are always busy - she never seems tired and sleepy, and sleeps very poorly - but will look so fresh



in the morning - and her face is  
far more smooth than mine -

We went to the theatre twice while she  
was here - as we could take the cars  
at the head of the dock - if it weren't for  
her lame knee, she could get about -  
while she was here, the children came  
over in batches, for they are so fond of  
a ship - Rebecca Morrison took dinner  
one day here - she looks so well, and  
is as round and rosy - Alice her  
daughter also called - I wrote about  
calling on Mrs. Hamham, and her daughter  
calling on us, as well as her oldest son -  
We were invited to dinner a week ago  
Saturday, but could not go, as Jane  
was to go to the Versaries - so we went  
this last Saturday, and had a very  
pleasant visit. She has two fine young  
men sons - twenty one and twenty three -  
the daughter eighteen - they are most  
cordial, and seem to be pleased to  
add new relatives - I like Mrs. L. very  
much, she seems so sensible - she has  
invited us to take our Thanksgiving dinner  
with them, if we are here - This morning



2 is the finest for a long time - most of last week it rained, earlier

SHIP

ARTHUR SEWALL.

than usual, for this climate - and more than for years - rain seems to be out of place here, the streets get so sticky, - but the rain has washed the dust off the trees, and the hills begin to show a touch of green - now they are the color of an elephant - We have towed around to the floating dock this morning, for the bottom of the ship needs looking after, and to be painted - a number of rivets worked loose, so that considerable jumping was necessary - but that often happens in a new ship - she makes a fine appearance at the wharf, as she is painted red above her water line, and crowds of people come on board Sundays - yesterday the two Vesaria girls with a friend of theirs, Mr. Smith, and Sadie Clapp took dinner here - we intended going on board the "Lorra" but some people came in - visitors go out to the war vessels in launches - the water front is very busy now - The Transport "Senator" came in yesterday, with Lorra



boys from Manila, and the welcome they all get must be gratifying. - we passed close by, crossing the ferry to Alameda last night - several of the Red Cross order were on board the ferry boat and waved flags to the soldiers and such a din of shouting! I hear it is not as easy to raise volunteers for Manila now. - We were amazed to see T. G. Nottley walk in Friday afternoon - he had come up on the Australian steamer - said he left Wilder well - there had been a strike on in Sydney for four months, and he had been waiting three weeks, but hoped to get the first load the next day - Wilder wrote a brief letter - I expect the poor boy is lonely and discouraged to be detained so long in both ports, and miss seeing us here - he must be on the way now, but there isn't the shadow of a chance that we will meet. - he has had too much care put on his young shoulders - but possibly it will make a man of him. -

Before I forget it, I will say that Irving Cushman did not go up the coast but has shipped on board a transport for Manila.



3 and has sailed - I don't remember which  
one - Albert Rediger, our Philadelphia boy  
has gone home - Fred Brigham  
shipped on the "Argyrian" for N. Y.

SHIP  
ARTHUR SEWALL.

We were chartered for N. Y. - but Mr.  
Sewall thought it better business to go  
to London, so the charter has been changed.  
I am indifferent to either port. Jew has  
so much on his mind all the time -  
very little chance for rest - he did not  
want to have bring the ship into the  
floating dock, but felt it was necessary,  
she is so foul on the bottom, and it might  
make two weeks difference in the passage.

Capt Sam Morrison spent a night with  
us - he looks well, and we were glad  
to see him - he came up the next  
day after Arthur sailed - was sorry to  
miss him - I tried to find your last  
letter, but could not - you are kind to  
write often, and I will try to do better  
in the way of answering - but so much of  
the time I do not feel in the mood of  
answering - I paid up the fare to Feb.  
or March first - at the year begins then -  
leaving so suddenly, I could not think  
of many things - If you sit with me, I think



Lincoln Jester will be glad to take my  
part of the Clarke fund - or they wanted  
to get seats in that locality - you might  
tell Mr. Clarke that the part I had is  
free - I only sat there a month before  
leaving - I wouldn't hesitate to tell the  
girls that they'd better see Mr. C - I'm sorry  
the church owes so much, and wish I could  
help out - but there are so many channels  
out this way for the surplus money -  
Mrs. Russell has big schemes, but no money  
in them - and it costs so much to live  
out here - Jim thinks you could not have  
lived very high by your grocery bill - you  
need not think that Jim would find fault  
for nearly all the outpats were for us -  
he thought I left more money in the bank  
and I thought there were only \$122 so that  
is the reason I asked - If you didn't have  
to live alone, you would feel more con-  
tent on the hill, though I know I see  
want to you, and you will be so much  
company for her. (I fully understand) -

Jane had a lovely visit at Larkspur  
the Veserians are such nice people - I have  
only seen the two girls - Lillian has classes  
in painting in the city - the girls will spend



two days with us this week.

4. Yesterday we went to Grace Church

SHIP  
ARTHUR SEWALL.

to hear Bishop Potter of N. Y. who  
is on his way to Manila - the church  
was packed, and many had to go

away - we went early - so got seats -  
the singing there is the finest I ever  
heard - and such a magnificent organ -

Bishop Potter was fine - Sunday here is  
so different here - the streets are full of  
people out for pleasure - ferry boats and  
cars full of people - and the water front  
is alive - so many walk along Sundays,  
to see the vessels in the docks and  
the harbor - Last week Capt. Cushing  
and wife of the Review called -  
she knew Jane mother years ago in N. O.  
she was Frank Savant's wife - she is a  
very nice woman, and Capt Cushing is  
devoted to her - his father was born in Phipshury  
and was a captain - Mrs Cushing's first  
husband was a doctor, and was unfaithful  
to her, so she left him - either in Phila or  
Baltimore - her home was in England - she  
had no money, and in her trouble she  
went on board a steamer bound to N. O.,



and asked for a Stewardess berth - She is well educated and her father had means but did not like it because she married this doctor - afterwards she met Frank Saranton - and in course of time they were married - She must have had a hard time the last of her living with him, as he drank and she had to support herself - then he left her - afterwards her father I think died and left her money - I remember hearing of that - Mrs. Murphy knew all about her former history, as she told her her troubles years ago in N. D. before I came into the cabin (I was up town -) she asked her not to say anything of her early life, as it was so painful she wanted to keep it out of her mind - She has a rich aunt who will probably leave her rich - so she now has her third husband and I am glad he is so devoted - She is allowed to go on the cutter with him - I remember when Capt Saranton brought her to Bath - it was told he married a Stewardess and that was the way of it -

Nothing wants to come on board and I rather think that is what he has come for, for he and Mr. Harvey did not get on together before, though he says there is no trouble.



5 If I don't write often, my letter makes  
up in quantity - The Dickses were down  
SHIP one evening - he has good prospects  
ARTHUR SEWALL. He thinks in Alaska mines - at Cape Nome -  
has come down for the winter and will  
go again in the spring -

We have seen little of Grace for she has  
had gripper and when in last was still  
confined to her room - Capt Clapp has  
sailed for Tacoma to load coal for Honolulu  
then back - the "Ternia" is sold and Capt -  
Gilmore will remain in her - he has  
been in to see us quite often - he told  
me of the good fortune of the Preble sisters -

You will be tired sending out things  
to us, for almost every letter we want  
something, the last week I fixed Jane's  
brown cells, and my silk waist - it is  
not wearing good - the raggy doll I  
want to give away - Jane wanted to have  
the waist of her red dress fixed so there  
would <sup>not</sup> be so much white - there is one  
large piece and it may be wrapped  
up in something - she had her velvet  
and feathers put on a new frame and  
it looks good as new - I am wearing the  
bonnet I got in Phila - you can wear anything <sup>here</sup> -



The last week the Odd Fellows have been having a convention, and the streets have been gay with flags - Then one sees soldiers everywhere - some look like mere boys.

I hope the doctor's patients will come forward and pay their debts - if all could pay, they would be rich - I hope the doctor left enough so that Sue can have a purse of her own and feel free to spend, but I don't believe she even will - she has lived too many years to change - but I do hope you will try to get her out - There is a Syrian Whistle in town that plays tunes like a caliope, so when a Transport comes in this infernal machine plays "Home Sweet Home" - if a fellow had a bit of sentiment, this would suppress it - it is playing now, so I suppose the Iowa boys are landing - there were a thousand on board the "Senator" - [noisy gun reports mounted into the air.]

Jem has had a bad cold, but is getting over it - I hate to have him so worried as he is - They are raising the ship now - she is in a slip, with big engines in buildings on each side - I don't know how it works - we will be out tomorrow but the expense is great - give much love

to all and believe me to be all the while and volunteers to Sue -



Northfleet, May 24<sup>th</sup> 1900

SHIP  
ARTHUR SEWALL.

My dear Sophie

I missed the last mail for coming down here seemed to get us all out of the way. We left the dry-dock Saturday afternoon and anchored to a buoy off Northfleet, as a ship was at the wharf, loading. They can load only one at a time - and the most chalk they get out of this mine is 150 to 200 tons a day. Sunday was very pleasant, so we five went on shore and took a drive into the country which is so pretty about here - took our lunch, and ate it in a little garden attached to a half-way house - this part of the country is famous for its water-cress which are cultivated. Monday and Tuesday it blew a gale and we were so nervous fearing something would happen - the ship had in only 250 tons of chalk that we took in in London. Early Wednesday morning we came to the wharf - well, the ship is too big for the wharf and comes up so far above it, that she can only load at dead low water - she took in 75 tons more



day now, and 85 Thursday! You see I am running  
my letter right along - for I left it yesterday  
to go out. Friday morning - a beautiful sunny morn-  
ing, after the unsettled weather - they took in chalk  
at one o'clock this morning, and worked two hours.  
we hope soon the ship will be down, so the chalk  
chutes will work better - Jim is so vexed about  
this business - for we will be all of two days loading -  
and no money in it - if he had ballasted, would  
have been on our way. summer will be nearly  
gone before we get across, I fear. Wednesday we  
went to Gravesend in the tramcar - three miles, and  
very pretty scenery - the chalk cliffs look like castle  
walls. chalk is everywhere - cement making is the  
principal business of the town about - While in  
Gravesend, we noticed <sup>on</sup> board bills that, "What hap-  
pened to Jones" was to be played there this week,  
so are going over to night - and we feel quite  
frivolous - Yesterday we had a lovely trip to  
Rochester, ten miles from here - there is a fine old  
Cathedral and the ruins of a castle close by - we  
first went to the Cathedral and heard part of  
a service - the organ was grand - and a choir of boys.  
from there we went to the castle which must  
have been very imposing - A Corporation own it and  
the grounds are kept up for a park - the walls  
of the castle are very good but there are no floors




with the exception of the sides - we climbed the  
ascending stairs, to the very top and walked  
around the parapet, imagining the

SHIP  
ARTHUR SEWALL.

times when they used the bows through the  
slits in the walls. They are going to renovate it  
and put in floors. One of the finest views  
is from the top - it is on high land, giving  
a beautiful outlook of the country. It is 104 ft  
high from the base. I never saw so many  
doves together - they live in the nooks and we  
saw so many little ones in their nests, as we  
climbed up. In one part of the grounds, a woman  
sells little bags of corn for a penny, and we fed  
the doves. There must have been a hundred about  
us, as we sat on a bank, our arms and laps were  
full of them, eating corn from our hands. They were  
so pretty and tame. After we finished the Castle,  
we went back to the Cathedral and read epitaphs  
the floor was nearly covered with slabs, some  
three hundred years old - written in old English.

We took an open carriage for an hour (62cts)  
and rode through the town and Chatham which  
joins - war ships are built there and war vessels  
stationed - the town was full of marines and soldiers  
as there are barracks - then we came back to  
Rochester and looked into some of the shops,  
getting some views, and visited an interesting old house



Three hundred years, old - It figured in Dickens' "Edwin  
Druid", as a boarding school for young ladies - we  
went all through it - there are a great many interesting  
curiosities in cases that have been presented - it  
is now owned by a Corporation and they are to  
fix it up with new floors, to preserve it. Tell Sadie  
L. - it was built by a Sir Peter Buck and his  
coat-of-arms is on one of the windows - a shield with  
a band of blue with three white stars  - the mantels  
are of oak beautifully carved and the hinges to the  
doors silver - beautiful ceilings of plaster work in figures  
and flowers - the original ceilings - I thought he might  
be an ancestor of the Maine Bucks. Rochester is famous  
for Dickens' characters, Pickwick and his cronies - but  
you may be tired of all this. I only wish you could  
see it - Jenn went to London yesterday - 24 miles - and  
brought back your letter and one from Mrs. Van.  
We enjoyed your letter very much. I don't see why  
that drawer could not be made deeper I wonder if  
there is anything that could be put on the kitchen  
floor, except oil cloth that wears out so fast, and I  
remember it was pretty well worn out when I left.  
I will have to have the parlor curtains put into  
the diningroom chamber and some new ones for  
the parlor - I intended to get some over here, but  
think I will not - it is hard to get narrow ones.  
I'm glad you saw Freda - Jane met her the first



week, before her sickness -  
she looked badly after that -  
but now looks much better -  
We are all busy sewing -  
trying to get something thin  
made for summer. I think  
is very capable, and she and  
Jane work together -

It was very showery yesterday  
and we had to dodge between  
them, but we hope it will  
keep dry to day - we have  
such a time getting in and  
off the ships, there is such  
a rise and fall of the tide -  
we can only use a common  
ladder. the chalk is everywhere  
and it like putty when wet,  
and slippery - have to walk a  
mile, to take the train, how-  
ever we are willing to walk,  
for the sake of going out -  
I read of the delightful music



in London, but it is not  
for us. Blauvelt is spoken  
very highly of, over here.

We were invited to dine  
with Mr. Brukenich last  
Monday, at a swell restaurant,  
but were dunn here, and did  
not get it, until two days  
afterward. I do hope you  
won't wear yourself out work-  
ing around. We scarcely can  
afford to hire such work-  
done. Don't you think you  
could get someone to take  
up and clean that old car-  
pet in the back room by  
the W.C? It must be filthy.  
I suppose a bar painter  
room would be better there.  
Jim says he is ready to  
take this, so good bye, with  
love to all.  
Affec. Maria  
Your boat is very much better.



thirty six miles - it would  
be midnight before we  
could get home.

SHIP  
ARTHUR SEWALL

I expect that great ground.  
Wants dressing and seed -  
hope the hedge water well.

The pians will want  
tuning - hope it did not  
break. We have some

coverings for ~~the~~ pillars  
Every body is in a holy  
do I must go -

Tomorrow will be an  
only day in town, so  
we want to see

all we can -  
Give much love  
to Sam and all

Office.  
Marianne

Northfleet, May 28th 1900

I will write a few lines  
before going to bed, though there is nothing of interest  
to write in this stupid place - We have been home  
all day, sewing - and it was so lovely out, up over  
the hills - We women intended to go to London this  
morning, to visit some picture galleries, but decided to  
go tomorrow instead - the ship is loading better than  
we expected, so ought to get away this week - there  
is chalk everywhere - and the place is full of cement  
works - about fifty tall chimneys in sight from the  
dock - to make cement, they take a layer of clay mud,  
a layer of chalk, and on top, coke - it is then subjected  
to high heat, which melts it into clinkers - that is  
ground up and is cement - many of the houses are  
made of pieces of flint, cemented together - also high  
walls - it looks quite pretty - Yesterday, we took  
a little excursion, as Jim cannot go week days.

We went by train to Rochester, for we wanted Jim  
to see the castle and cathedral - walked about the  
grounds, fed the pigeons, then walked along the river



until we came to a field where there were  
trees, so sat down under them and ate our lunch  
which we brought from the ship - there were sheep,  
ducks, hens and a colt which we fed - afterwards  
we went to a cab stand and engaged a wagnette,  
and rode out to Gad's hill where Dickens lived, then  
out to Cobham - five miles from Rochester - it is such  
a quaint little village - full of Dickens - we went into  
the "Leather Bottle Inn" the scene of many of Dickens's  
pictures - his chair was by the table, and the walls  
covered with pictures, illustrating his characters - then  
we crossed the street and went into the churchyard  
the church is very old - we did not see the inside,  
as the door was locked - behind the church is a very  
quaint Work house - one story stone houses surrounding  
a court - an old man asked us to walk in and  
look about - there were old men and women, who  
were formerly in Earl Darnley's employ, and he takes  
care of them - each had a room, and looked very  
comfortable but I came away, greatly disappointed  
for I could not persuade one old man to let me  
have one of his kittens - we saw a lovely black cat, with  
long fur, and as we petted her, the owner came to the  
door and asked us in to see her kittens, the dearest  
little things, four weeks old - one was pure white, with  
long fur, the other the image of our dear tiger Tom -  
I asked if I might have one, and he said both were



spoken for by a woman who was going to give him  
a shilling each, and would take all he raised -

SHIP

ARTHUR SEWALL.

I offered him five shillings (\$1.25) but he held  
to his word, and would not be tempted - I told him  
I wanted to take it to America, - but he had given  
his promise - his wife had died three months before,  
and this cat was her pet - I think he felt badly  
to think of parting the kittens, for they take up his  
mind - the grandmother of the kittens was mottled yellow  
and black and was nine years old - she took more  
care of the kittens than the mother, and it was so funny  
to see how anxious she was when we were holding them.  
I did want that little tiger so badly - in fact I would  
have taken both - it is the first kitten that has looked  
and felt like Tom - silky - his fur was not as long as  
the white, but longer than a common cat - I would take  
the yellow cat home, if a good one - We miss our "Scrappy"  
so much - I may sometime be able to get one from the  
same family - It was the finest country I have ever  
seen in England - so hilly - we drove past the great man's  
place, Earl Darulys', a magnificent park, and house -  
the trees were beautiful - so large - he has deer and  
sheep - in fact, has a little village of just his own workmen  
right about him - he must be very rich for he owns  
all the country about in that direction - miles in every  
direction - the present Earl is about 42 - has no children -  
his sister committed suicide about eighteen months ago, in  
a pond in the park - We drove back to Rochester and



Took the train back - getting here at half past seven -  
found Mrs. Brown, a captain's widow, who came to see us  
in London. I think I wrote of her, with two friends of hers,  
Mr. and Miss Wilson, who took tea with us - they came  
down to see us, and finding us gone, went for a walk, return-  
ing to the ship about the time we got back - she sent me  
last week a very old teaspoon - Last Friday night, we  
went to see "Jones" and it was very good - there was  
only a small audience - think all the characters were English.  
I read in the papers of the lovely music in London - I'd like  
to be somebody for a while, and hear all the music I want -

Will hasn't written to me here, and suppose he does  
not feel like it, on Jim's account. I think Jim would  
like to have him write, for he said one day, he supposed  
Will would not write to him again - and every now  
and then he tells me he should think I would write to  
him (-I have written) Jim's foot is very much better, but he  
has to walk slowly - he has had so many things to worry  
him, and, and this long delay discharging, and waiting  
around for chalk. I just long to get home.

When you want money, go to Mr. Sewalls - We did hope  
to fix up the house this time - but suppose we can't - Jim  
does not want to go East - he ought to stay on shore, for  
he needs it - I must stay home, or I will get morbid -  
and that is not my disposition - I don't believe Lizzie will  
join Joe - if she is so poorly, a ship is not the place for her.  
We had an invitation to dine at Mr. Houlden's the brokers, tomorrow  
night, but it was too much of a task to go up from here about